GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4763
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2000
INSTALLATION OF WATER MILLS
SURESH CHANDEL

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of water mills installed under the promotional schemes as on March 31, 2000, State-wise ;

(b) the total amount spent on them and their installed capacity;

(c) whether these water mills are in running condition and generating power according to their installed capacity ;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(e) the number of such water mills which have been closed and the reasons therefor ; and
(f) the details of work done for installing water mills in private sector ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN)

(a) & (b): 110 water mills (as demonstration units) have been installed as part of UNDP-GEF Hilly Hydro Project implemented by the Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources. These water mills have been installed in the States of J&K (15), Himachal Pradesh (20), Uttar Pradesh (25) and Arunachal Pradesh (50).The project has spent about Rs. 8000 per water mill towards the equipment cost and the civil works cost is being met by the beneficiary. These water mills are for mechanical operation with an equivalent capacity of 5 KW.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Most of these water mills are in running condition and generating power according to their installed capacity. During monitoring follow up visits, minor problems were reported in a few water mills, which were rectified on the spot.

(e): It is estimated that there are over 1 lakh old and traditional water mills in the Himalayan States which have been used for mechanical work such as grinding, oil extraction etc.. Many such water mills are falling in to disuse as these are based on very old traditional designs and have low reliability. In order to up-grade these water mills, MNES has announced an incentive scheme.

(f): The scheme is being implemented through State Agencies for Renewable Energy, NGOs, local bodies etc.Private sector is not directly involved in the installation of the water mills. They are involved in the manufacture and supply of these mills.